VZCZCXRO2977 RR RUEHDE RUEHDH RUEHDIR DE RUEHTC #0137 0570810 ZNY CCCCC ZZH R 260810Z FEB 09 FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2585 INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2059 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2788 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 1047 RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 0389 RUEHKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 0187 RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 5241 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 1415 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1819 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 0348

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(C) The Dutch are eager to hear U.S. plans for Pakistan, including details on the travel of Special Envoy Holbrooke, new strategies, and assistance packages. MFA Pakistan desk officer Hidde Baars told poloff the Dutch expect to pledge at most 112 million euros at the upcoming Pakistan donors conference. (Note: this figure reflects a three-year funding plan reported in reftel. End note.) Although the Dutch have approved this spending level as a ceiling, they do not expect to make a public announcement. Moreover, they are waiting for project proposals from the government of Pakistan, the construction of their new embassy in Islamabad, and the proper staffing to administer the funds. In addition, the Dutch are seeking information on other donors' development plans to coordinate efforts. Baars noted there will be restrictions" on Dutch funding, except that Development Cooperation Minister Koenders will continue to monitor closely the political developments in Pakistan. GALLAGHER